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For Immediate Release February 27, 2004

Sen. Hardiman to read to Grand Rapids students Monday

Who: Sen. Bill Hardiman, R-Kentwood, and students of Harrison Park

Elementary School.

What: March is Reading Month and the senator is visiting local schools and

reading to students. He also will talk about the importance of reading and

Contact: Kim Erdelyi

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about his job in the Michigan Senate.

When: 11 a.m., Monday, March 1

Where: Harrison Park Elementary School

1440 Davis Ave. NW

Grand Rapids

Briefing: Children who love to read love to learn and enjoy greater success in other

subjects as well. But students who cannot read well are more likely to drop

out of school and end up working in lower-paying jobs. Millions of

Americans struggle with the written word and this frustration develops at

an early age. According to the U.S. Department of Education, about 40

percent of students across our nation cannot read at their grade level.